



## Special delivery



Members of the 12th Security Forces Squadron Emergency Services Team hand a portable telephone to T-43 aircrew member and simulated hostage Michael McKim Monday during a hijacking exercise on the east flightline. The 12th Flying Training Wing practices its response to about 20 different contingencies throughout the year during scenarios run by the wing exercise evaluation team. (Photo by Steve White)

# Operational Readiness Inspection

## Detailed preparation now assures success in Sept.

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

The Air Education and Training Command Inspector General announced the headquarters will conduct an Operational Readiness Inspection of the 12th Flying Training Wing Sept. 12-21.

The wing last had an ORI in 2003 and receives an inspection from the headquarters every two years.

"Our people are doing great work," said Col. John Hesterman, 12th FTW commander. "There's every reason to expect they will do the same when the inspectors are here. We have more than five months to get ready, and several organizations have already started thoughtful preparation. There should be no

need to make a mad dash checking for compliance with requirements the week before the inspectors arrive."

The colonel emphasized people should continue to refine the work done by the wing every day of the year.

"Pay attention to details now," he said. "Verify the checklists and Air Force Instructions already in place, follow them, and this will be a calm, productive summer."

Col. Pat Clyburn, 12th FTW inspector general, said he has a game plan laid out to help units on base pace themselves in preparation for the ORI. One of the tools he will be distributing includes success stories from other units.

"Things other units have learned can help us do

our best," he said.

Colonel Clyburn pointed out the AETC IG is focused on operations and results.

"Be positive and 'sell' your programs, but leave out the 'fluff,'" he said. "What we want to communicate is that we've got great people doing great jobs – every day. Let that be our message."

Chief Master Sgt. Glenda Solomon, 12th FTW IG superintendent, added another note of encouragement.

"Our people frequently have ideas on how to do their work better," she said. "Anyone who wants to submit a 'best practice' for consideration by the IG should go ahead and submit it now while it's fresh. There's no need to wait until the ORI team is here to get your ideas on record. Be positive! Be proud!"

### 12th FLYING TRAINING WING TRAINING TIMELINE

As of Monday			Navigator, EWO training				Wing Flying Hour Program			
Squadron	Senior Class	Overall	562nd FTS	563rd FTS			Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
99th FTS	-1.5	0.5	Air Force	222 Undergraduate	39		T-1A	5958.2	6009.6	12,184
558th FTS	-1.9	1.3	Navy	70 International	8		T-6A	8540.8	8590.3	17,290
559th FTS	-3.7	-2.7	International	0 EWC Course	0		T-37B	4558.5	4540.5	8,284
560th FTS	-0.8	-0.4	NIFT	24 Fundamentals	0		T-38C	4919.6	4605.3	9,729
							T-43	2100.1	2088.9	4,293

Numbers reflect days ahead or behind for senior pilot instructor training class and an average for all PIT classes currently in training.

Numbers reflect students currently in training. The 562nd shows source of navigator students. Air Force students include Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. The 563rd indicates students in specific courses.

The required and flown numbers reflect hours flown between Oct. 1, 2004 to date. The annual numbers are total hours for fiscal year 2005.

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FORCE

As of Monday, 113 Team Randolph members are deployed in support of military operations around the globe





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celebrates its  
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in 2005

Graphic by Michelle DeLeon

The Randolph  
WINGSPREAD

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For more information about submissions, call 652-5760 or base ext. 7-5760.

Commander's Action Line

Call 652-5149 or e-mail  
randolph.actionline@randolph.af.mil



While our goal is to provide the best programs, products and services to our customers, there will be instances when people believe we could have served them better.

In those cases, I ask the individual to first contact the responsible organization to allow the unit commander or manager an opportunity to ensure professional and impartial treatment.

When those officials are unable to provide satisfaction, the individual may contact me through the Action Line. I will ensure each Action Line call is looked into and a reply is given by telephone or in writing. I ask callers to include their name and telephone number so we may send a personal response.

Col. John Hesterman  
12th Flying Training Wing commander

Agency contact numbers	
12th FTW IG	652-2727
12th FTW Legal Office	652-6781
Base Exchange	674-8917
Civil Engineers	652-2401
Civilian Pay	652-6480
Commissary	652-5102
EEO Complaints	652-3749
Equal Opportunity	652-4376
FW&A Hotline	652-3665
Housing Maintenance	652-1856
Military Pay	652-1851
Randolph Clinic	652-2933
Safety Office	652-2224
Security Forces	652-5509
Services	652-5971
Straight Talk	652-7469
Transportation	652-4314

Encourage individual excellence

By Lt. Col. Scott Forest  
E-3A Aircrew Training Squadron  
commander

GEILENKIRCHEN NATO AIR BASE, Germany – We all know excellence is an important Air Force core value. We each are challenged to apply it daily in our actions, our attitudes and in our planning and decision making. All Airmen have a responsibility to encourage, recognize and deliver individual excellence.

Rewarding excellence encourages it, and there are many ways to reward it. When rewarding or recognizing individual excellence in our teammates, Airmen must use a variety of methods, match them to the circumstances and keep individual recognition in the right context.

A situation in December of 2003 reinforced some lessons about recognizing and rewarding individual excellence. I had taken command of a squadron with members from 13 nations and was surprised that I did not find a current or historical unit program to recognize outstanding performers. I set out to correct that.

To lay out a vision, I proposed to the international leadership in the squadron – several flight commanders, senior NCOs, and field grade officers – what I thought was a modest "crawl-walk-run" plan for nominating, selecting and rewarding outstanding performers. I was totally unprepared for their reaction.

*"I am reminded to keep individual excellence and recognition in its context, the team context. We must encourage and reward individual excellence in formal and informal ways that keep us focused on the team goals. Our country deserves nothing less."*

Not only did they not want it, ("so much for consensus," I thought) but they firmly asserted it would hurt the unit and be detrimental to good order, discipline and morale. They had a completely different perspective and felt strongly that recognition of individual excellence took away from the team concept. I felt strongly that we would enhance and encourage team performance if individuals were striving for team goals and their performance was rewarded. After a good discussion, I asked for hands in favor of the program. Only one went up. I relented.

I'm glad I did, because in this context they were right. Our squadron did not start and does not have an individual recognition program. But, we developed encouragement that is more appropriate and more effective-based on the background and culture of our personnel. On a personal level, I did not consider that experience a failure, but I did re-learn some things.

First, there are many effective ways to promote individual excellence in

ourselves and others. Leaders, supervisors and teammates need to use all of them in appropriate places and times: a kind word, a hand-written note, a handshake or a formal write-up.

Second, I realized I had been trained, immersed and coached in an Air Force culture that promoted and allowed recognition of individual excellence AND team excellence; a culture in which rewarding it encourages it. I had taken this for granted, and now I agree with it and appreciate it even more.

Third, our pursuit of individual excellence must be aligned with our team's pursuit of excellence. We must pursue our core value of excellence just as strongly for our teams and institutions as we do for ourselves.

So as I prepare for the next set of award ceremonies, I am reminded to keep individual excellence and recognition in its context, the team context. We must encourage and reward individual excellence in formal and informal ways that keep us focused on the team goals. Our country deserves nothing less.

Entire team provides mission success

By Col. Dawn Wheeler  
United States Air Forces Europe Inspector General

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFPN) – At a fighter base back in the 1980s, we got goal days based on the number of sorties each aircraft flew every month. Known as utilization, or UTE, days, people were given the day off if the wing did well.

One day, the wing commander came to a staff meeting and told us a story of a young captain who had come to see him to complain.

The captain didn't think the wing finance office should be closed on a UTE day. Since finance members had nothing to do with the aircrews getting their day off, he felt it was unfair. The

commander agreed to look into the matter and invited the captain to the weekly staff meeting.

During the meeting, the commander began going around the room asking questions, starting with the captain. "Would you be as eager to fly if finance didn't see to it that you were paid?" the wing commander asked the captain. Then, turning to me, he said, "Or if the major didn't see to it that your plane was secured where you left it, what would you fly?"

Calmly, the commander went completely around the room asking simple but penetrating questions as he mentored us that day, letting us know that it takes everyone, from the Airman on the flightline to the commander's support staff to keep the mission going. And, it takes each of our core capabilities to accomplish that mission.

Congratulations Retirees

April 6  
Lt. Col. Ann Marie Matonak  
Air Education and Training Command

Today  
Senior Master Sgt. Ricky Harris  
12th Contracting Squadron

Wednesday  
Tech. Sgt. Dennis Jamrozy  
AETC

Retirement announcements should be submitted to the Wingspread office by noon Friday two weeks prior to the desired date of publication. E-mail announcements to randolph.retiree.messages@randolph.af.mil or fax them to 652-5412. For more information, call the Wingspread office at 652-5760.



# LRS takes lead in helping Afghan orphans

## *Donations pour in as base members show concern*



First Lt. Camille LaDrew, 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron, labels a box of donated clothes bound for an Afghanistan orphanage. (Photo by Steve White)

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

When there's a need, it's often as much who you know as to what you know that determines how the needs are met.

That's the way it worked last week for Capt. Tammy McElhaney, currently deployed from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., to Afghanistan. She saw how children in local Afghan orphanages needed some real help, so she sent an e-mail to her old college friend, 1st Lt. Camille LaDrew, 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron, asking for help.

Lieutenant LaDrew started a short series of local e-mails and literally within three hours donations started pouring in. In just 10 days, the 12th LRS shipping dock was filled with 22 large boxes, a total of 663 pounds, ready for commercial shipping. The donations also came from The Alamo Chapter of the Logistics Officer Association, Lackland AFB and private donors from Boerne, Texas.

"We received so much that we had to get the stuff packed and on its way to clear out the storage areas. Some people contributed cash money so we could pay

for the shipping costs, but look at all the clothes and shoes that came in," she said, pointing to the piles of sorted supplies.

Some 300 orphans ages 5 to 13 at the Allahuddin and Tahi Maskan Orphanages in Kabul will soon be receiving these boxes of clothes, socks, shoes, dental and personal hygiene products, writing materials and toys. Many of the donated items came from people who were just sharing from their own family wardrobes, but other items were newly purchased.

Capt. Mark LaDrew, the lieutenant's husband and an instructor in the 562nd Flying Training Squadron, couldn't help smiling as he watched his wife organizing the packing effort.

"The response from the people on base has been great," he said. "We have a special place in our hearts for kids because we have toddlers of our own. The laws in Afghanistan don't permit adoptions, so those orphans really have no one to help when the orphanage can't supply anything beyond the most basic needs. We're glad we can help this way."

"We'll probably do another drive sometime," Lieutenant LaDrew said. "These kids will continue to need help for a long time."

# Force protection ambassadors

## *Randolph Airmen serving as escorts offer another line of security*

By Tech. Sgt. Scott Sturkol  
416th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

KARSHI-KHANABAD AIR BASE, Uzbekistan – All eight of them come from Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and none of them are security forces, yet their duty here calls for them to provide a form of force protection.

Commonly known as third-country national, or TCN, escorts, these eight Airmen serving as contractor escorts come from Air Force specialties that range from finance to weather and are assigned with the 416th Expeditionary Mission Support Squadron civil engineer flight. Each of them say they are proud to be doing something meaningful to help protect assets and resources for the Global War on Terrorism.

"My regular career field is personnel," said Airman Richard Langlois Jr., deployed from the 12th Mission Support Squadron at Randolph. "This deployment has made me realize the meaning of 'one team, one fight.' The integration of Army and Air Force wasn't what I thought it to be here, which was basically segregated. We really are 'one team, one fight' here and everywhere else in this area for Operation Enduring Freedom. This deployment made me realize that."

Tech. Sgt. Scott LaCross, who when not deployed as the NCO in charge of the escorts, is a medical technician for the 12th Medical Group at Randolph where he serves as the NCO in charge of the main outpatient pharmacy.

"This is my second deployment – my first was to Saudi Arabia," Sergeant LaCross said. "This deployment is really a great experience, with my normal job and my past deployments I have always been in a medical unit or mobile hospital. Now I am doing a completely different kind of job dealing with the local contractors, Army, security forces and host nation personnel. To me the best experience is the true sense of teamwork accomplished here, all the groups meshing together to attain the same goal."



Senior Airman Jason Haskins communicates on his radio during escort duty in Uzbekistan recently. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Scott Sturkol)

Staff Sgt. LaKeitha Luster, a contractor escort deployed from her normal job as a weather forecaster for the 12th Operations Support Squadron weather flight, said she is learning something different.

"I must say that being an escort is less stressful than being a weather forecaster," Sergeant Luster said. "With being an escort, you just do the work. You maintain a visual with the locals and make sure they are not doing anything they shouldn't. At the same time, being deployed makes me really appreciate the little things you take for granted in the states."

Senior Airman Jason Haskins, contractor escort deployed from Randolph's 12th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron where he serves as a medical administration journeyman, said when doing escort duty, it's vital to always pay attention.

"You can't let the people you are escorting take

advantage," Airman Haskins said. "You also have to show kindness, but not too much. This could be taken as a weakness."

Airman Haskins said it's a hard balance because you are responsible for the safety of many people.

"A lot of things could go bad so you have to be stern at times, but on the other side, you need to preserve the image of an American Airman and an ambassador of the United States," Airman Haskins said.

"This is nothing like what I would do at home," said Senior Airman Renita James, a contractor escort who works as an information manager in the 19th Air Force headquarters at Randolph. "I deal with weapons and flightline operations daily. I also get a chance to learn about the local culture from the translator who comes out with us."

Staff Sgt. Rodney Fowler, a contractor escort who is also a personnelist deployed from Randolph's 12th MSS, said he considers the escort duty "extremely important."

"In a deployed location, security is number one," Sergeant Fowler said. "My job as an escort is vital to force protection of our resources and people. You never know how close a potential enemy might be."

Airman 1st Class Derek Tekampe, contractor escort who deployed from Randolph's 12th Comptroller Squadron as an accounting and finance journeyman, said back at Randolph he would be spending most of his time behind a desk. His experience, he said, is teaching him something different.

"This gives me the experience of being on the other side," Airman Tekampe said. "I feel that I am in an active roll in supporting the war effort."

Supporting the war effort – that is why they all say they are here, including Sergeant Luster.

"I'm very proud of what I'm doing right now," Sergeant Luster said. "I'd always known other people to include my co-workers at home who have deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. I never felt that I was doing my part until now. I'm loving it."



# Randolph pumps first ethanol in AETC

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

Ethanol fuel has arrived on Randolph and the 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron added another first to its long list of accomplishments.

The 12th LRS fuels management people have converted one of their motor vehicle fuel tanks to handle E-85 fuel and are now dispensing it to light vehicles on base.

Randolph is the first place in the state of Texas and the first in the Air Education and Training Command where E-85 fuel is being dispensed. This is in addition to the conversion of all diesel fueled vehicles on base to the B-20 "Biodiesel" earlier this year.

Conversion to the E-85 fuel required dedicating one underground fuel storage tank to handle the alternative fuel which is 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent petroleum-based gasoline, said Dennis Stewart, 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels quality assurance evaluator.

"Certain pumps and seals also had to be replaced to match the chemical qualities of the new fuel," Mr. Stewart said, "but we're pumping E-85 fuel now."

The ethanol comes from plants in the Mid-west where corn, from which it is distilled, is grown. Vehicles that use the E-85 fuel come from the factory with the appropriate components installed but they can also use regular unleaded gasoline. This means that one of these vehicles can refuel on base with E-85 or off base with regular gasoline when necessary.

Vehicles using compressed natural gas were once touted as an answer to the fuels problems, but finding places to refuel them has continued to be a challenge. Conversion of fuel tankage to support those vehicles was also expensive.

Randolph is now receiving "flex fuel" vehicles and continues to increase their number in the fleet



Steve Stelle, 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron, checks out the new ethanol fuel pump on base for government vehicles. (Photo by Steve White)

of both Air Force owned and General Services Administration leased vehicles. They will be serviced with E-85 at the base refueling center, Mr. Stewart said.

Conversion to biodiesel fuel was easier because it can be used in existing diesel-powered vehicles with only minor adjustments. Biodiesel is 20 percent refined bio-source fuel and 80 percent fossil fuel. Back up power generators on base using diesel engines still require 100 percent fossil fuel-based diesel fuel because of long-term fuel storage chemistry changes inherent in the new biodiesel.

This move to alternative fuels is part of a major effort by the Air Force and the Department of Defense to lessen national dependence on foreign sources of fossil fuels, said Greg Bean, Air Education and Training Command fuels manager.

"It's a requirement of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and Executive Order 13149, signed in April 2000. And in my opinion, it's a move in the

right direction," he said. "And right now E-85 costs us only \$1.31 a gallon!"

The Energy Policy Act set a goal for the entire nation of replacing at least 30 percent of the projected consumption of motor fuels with alternative fuels by the year 2010. The Executive Order directs the Department of Defense toward a goal of 20 percent reduction in petroleum-based fuel consumption by 2005, as compared with the 1999 levels, and 30 percent by 2010.

These goals involve many small steps as well as the major fuel conversion programs, Mr. Bean said. The accounting process is complicated by trade-offs among categories of vehicles, but the major elements of the program are in vehicle acquisitions and in use of alternative fuels.

According to Air Force officials, the Air force managed to increase its fleet-wide average fuel economy by one mile per gallon during fiscal year 2004, and expects to increase it further in FY 2005 by another 3 MPG. Light duty vehicles in the Air Force fleet that did not use alternative fuels were reported to average 17 MPG in FY 1999, but by FY 2004 that number had risen to 22.8 MPG. This is a significant improvement when the size of the fleet is considered and the fact that Air Force light duty vehicles traveled a total of 28 million miles in FY 2004.

At this time, nine Air Force bases are equipped to handle E-85 fuel and 48 have B-20. All 13 AETC bases are slated to have both fuel capabilities by the end of FY 2006, Mr. Bean said.

According to the National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition, Indy Racing League cars will begin using an ethanol blend in 2006 and will convert to 100 percent ethanol in 2007. Publicity surrounding the racing community is expected to raise public awareness of the value of this new fuel from renewable sources.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### *I Love Randolph Week set*

I Love Randolph Week is set for April 25-29. This is a time for units and organizations to contribute to the beautification of the base.

A total of 50 \$500 landscape vouchers are available by submitting a landscape plan, using Air Force Form 332, by April 19. The vouchers are available to base organizations, excluding housing residents.

Volunteers are also needed for a 'mold patrol' to clean up the base's mold on building exteriors.

For more information, call Frank Speed at 652-4212.

### *12 FTW vice commander assignment*

Col. George Duda, 12th Flying Training Wing vice commander, will be reassigned June 30 as Inspection Team Chief, Air Combat Command Inspection Squadron, at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

His replacement will be Col. Richard Clark, who is coming from the National War College at Fort McNair, District of Columbia.

### *AFAF ends today*

Today is the last day to donate to the Randolph Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign.

People can contribute to one of four charities: the Air Force Aid Society, the Air Force Enlisted Villages, the Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund in San Antonio or the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation through cash, check, money order or payroll deduction. Contributions to the AFAF are tax deductible.

For more information, visit <http://afassistancefund.org>.

For more information, call Maj. Rick Fofi at 652-4931.

### *JEAD Dining-In*

This year's Junior Enlisted Appreciation Day Dining In takes place April 22 at 6 p.m. in the enlisted club. All enlisted members are invited to attend.

Chief Master Sergeant Timmothy Dickens, 19th Air Force command chief master sergeant, is the guest speaker.

The theme for the event is "Remembering the War Fighter."

Attire for the event is mess dress uniform or semi-formal dress uniform for military members. The cost is \$10 for junior enlisted members (E-6 and below) and \$20 for senior NCOs. A \$5.00 refund will be provided for every junior enlisted member's ticket that's presented at the dining in. Representatives from all Top 3 organizations will have tickets for purchase through April 15.

### *Airman magazine correction*

The January issue of Airman magazine, Airman the Book 2005, was recently distributed on base and contains two errors. The following is the correct information for the pages listed:

- Page 6, Commander: Vice Commander: Lt. Gen. William M. Fraser III (temporarily appointed to command)

- Page 9, Commander: Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley

Units that receive Airman magazine should have already received this correction information in errata sheets.

### *Fire Flow Test*

The annual fire flow test of the base water mains takes place Monday through April 22 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The flow test involves actual water release from hydrants. People are asked not to obstruct access to the hydrants at any time.

# AF honors base financial services

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

A Randolph unit and an employee were recognized last week when the Air Force announced its financial services awards for 2004.

The Air Education and Training Command Comptroller Directorate Financial Services Division won the team award for outstanding contributions to Air Force financial management transformation.

Cecilio Coronado of the 12th Comptroller Squadron won the financial services civilian of the year award for GS-10 and below.

The AETC financial management team took the lead in improving the relationship between the Air Force and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service with two successful pilot programs that have now been adopted service wide.

These programs involve the Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request and the Miscellaneous Obligation and Reimbursement Document processes. These accounting processes are significant in that they streamline purchasing and financial obligation procedures, potentially saving \$56 million in fiscal year 2005 and more in following years.

Mr. Coronado was cited in particular for his work to stand in for six months as a GS-11 while at the same time carrying out his regular GS-8 duties. He led the Accounting Liaison Office to a 99 percent travel accounting accuracy record, shattering the Air Force standard of 90 percent. He accomplished this while experiencing up to a 50 percent manning shortage.

Under his leadership, Mr. Coronado's team was able to



Cecilio Coronado reviews budget authorization numbers at his desk in the 12th Comptroller Squadron. Mr. Coronado recently received the Air Force financial services civilian of the year award, GS-10 and below. (Photo by Bob Hieronymus)

successfully close out more than \$1 billion in current year records for the command, wing and more than 50 tenant units. The 12th CPTS serves more tenant units than any other comptroller unit in the command, which makes the accomplishments of the office he directed even more notable.

During the year, he earned civilian of the quarter awards at squadron, wing and command levels and also command financial management civilian of the year.

"It's a great honor to be chosen for this award," Mr. Coronado said. "But a lot of credit has to go also to the team for the way they pulled together."



# 562 FTS spouses experience flight tour of area



Karrie Quenichet gets a hands-on orientation of a student position on the T-43 March 29 as part of the 562nd Flying Training Squadron's fourth annual spouses' orientation flight. (Courtesy photo)

By Capt. Chris Kaufman  
562nd Flying Training Squadron

About 40 spouses of instructors and students from the 562nd Flying Training Squadron were treated to a unique opportunity to experience first hand what it is like to be part of an aircrew on March 29 when the squadron opened its aircraft doors for the T-43 Spouses' Orientation Flight. Three of the 12th Flying Training Wing's T-43A airplanes flew the spouses on their 90-minute flight around the local area, including a fly-by of the base. "This is the kind of opportunity that gets our mission out to the public in a very positive way" said Cmdr. Tim Duening, 562nd FTS commander. "It also gives the spouses of our instructors and students some insight and appreciation for the training we do here everyday." This is the fourth consecutive year the 562nd FTS has sponsored the event, an event that has grown in popularity each year, said squadron officials. One of the more popular events the spouses experienced occurred when they were seated

directly behind the pilots in the cockpit during takeoff and landing. "I got to take off with them. It was a lot of fun," said Jacqueline Long, wife of 2nd Lt. Devin Long. "The reason we do this is to give the spouses an idea of what we do, from briefing to the preflight, takeoff, landing, and debrief – just like their spouses do on a typical sortie," said Capt. Ernesto Carcamo, the lead liaison for the orientation flight. The flights even included some on-the-job training. "I gave some of the student spouses a lesson on how to take a navigational 'fix' using the radar," said Lt. Col. Brent Bigger, 562nd FTS director of operations. "Wow, the spouses picked it up in a matter of minutes. I enjoyed their enthusiasm and energy. It's a flight to remember for me as well." The spouses appreciated the opportunity to see what their military spouses do day in and day out. "This gives us a better perspective of what our husbands do here," said Jennifer Jarskey, wife of 2nd Lt. James Jarskey. "The whole experience was fun and very informative. It was good (that the 562 FTS) gave us the opportunity to see all of this."

# Viva Fiesta! *San Antonio area bases stage events in honor of local cultural celebration*

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

April is here and across the city of San Antonio, the buzz of parades and celebrations is in the air for Fiesta San Antonio. Fiesta is a 10-day annual celebration to honor the memory of the heroes of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto. Beginning April 15, more than 150 events take place throughout San Antonio. Several of these events honor the military. The festivities kick off with the Fiesta San Antonio Official Opening Ceremony at Alamo Plaza April 15 from 10-11 a.m. The ceremony includes singing and dancing. The Army is hosting the Fort Sam Houston Fiesta Ceremony and Fireworks Extravaganza April 17 from 1-9 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston MacArthur Parade Field. There is live entertainment and food, as well as performances by the Golden Knights Army Parachute Team, the 82nd Airborne Division Chorus from Fort Bragg, and the United States Medical Command Band from Fort Sam Houston. On April 18, the Air Force is honored at the Air Force At The Alamo celebration from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at Alamo Plaza. The event includes a performance by

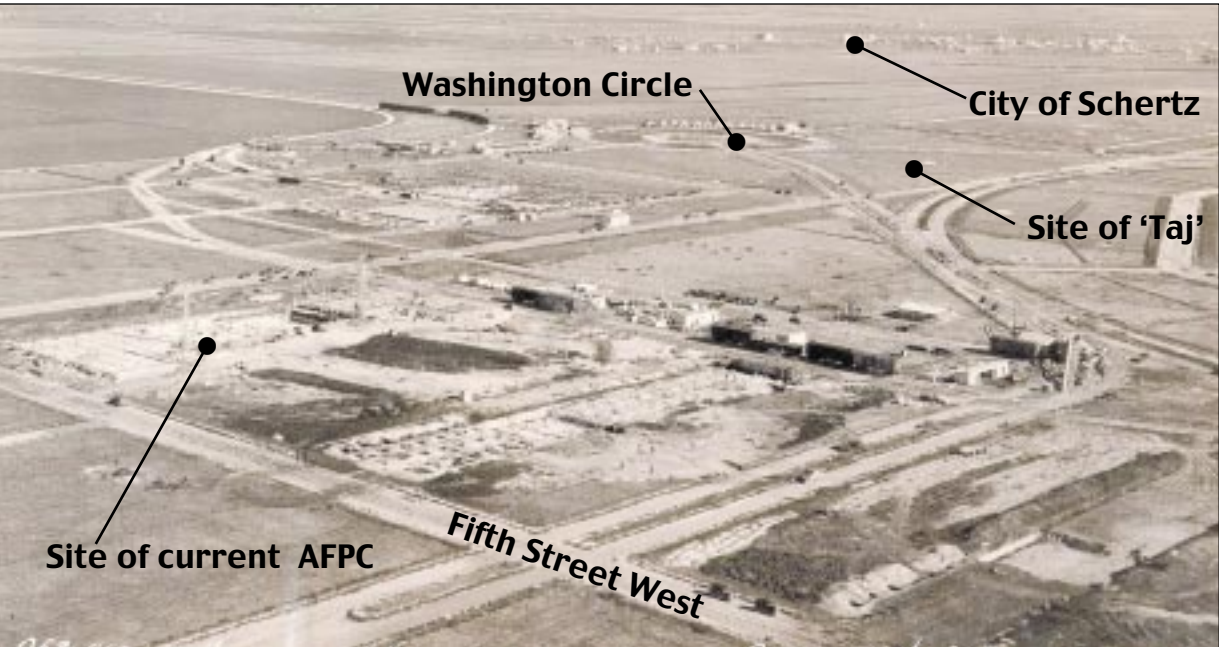
the Lackland Drum and Bugle Corps. The Fiesta In Blue Air Force Musical Extravaganza is April 19 and 20 from 7-9 p.m. at Trinity University's Laurie Auditorium, located at 715 Stadium Drive. The event features a military tribute by the United States Air Force Band of the West from Lackland Air Force Base. There are several events scheduled for San Antonio's military members April 20. Lackland is hosting a Fiesta Military Parade from 9:30-10:15 a.m. at the parade grounds. The event includes a performance by the Lackland Drum and Bugle Corps and a demonstration by the Lackland military working dogs and handlers. Later that day, the Army and Air National Guard celebrate Fiesta at the Texas National Guard Armory, 4255 IH 35 North, from 3 p.m. until midnight. This event features military vehicle displays, food, entertainment and dancing. The festivities continue April 21 with 'Navy Day' from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Alamo Plaza. The Navy Band of New Orleans performs, followed by the Marine Corps Reserve Band from New Orleans from 4-5 p.m. All these events are free admission. "The military has been an integral part of Fiesta from the very first Battle of Flowers parade in 1891,

when the Army provided its band to lead the horse-drawn carriages in the parade," said Susan Gandy, 12th Flying Training Wing public affairs chief of community relations. "I encourage our military members to participate in Fiesta to experience San Antonio's unique culture." Fiesta is celebrating its 114th year. The event has grown so large, it takes more than 75,000 volunteers and 94 non-profit organizations to host it. According to the Fiesta Commission, more than 3.5 million people from all over the world visit San Antonio each year for the festivities. Fiesta provides a boost to the San Antonio economy in sales in excess of \$220 million dollars. Fiesta began in 1891 when volunteers decorated their own carriages, a well as some borrowed ones from the U.S. Army, with fresh flowers to stage the first Battle of Flowers Parade. The event was planned to honor visiting president Benjamin Harrison. The "battle," in which carriage riders pelted each other with flowers as they circled Alamo Plaza, was such fun, the citizens decided to hold the celebration annually to honor Texas heroes. Military Ambassadors from local installations represent the military at many Fiesta events. For a complete list of Fiesta events, visit [www.fiesta-sa.org/](http://www.fiesta-sa.org/).

## Cuban car care

Senior Airman Lauren Machuga, a vehicle maintenance specialist deployed from the 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron, works on a car engine in the motor pool at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. She was recently recognized for her role in the effort to curb vehicle damage caused by island rodents called banana rats. She and fellow mechanics installed chicken wire on the undercarriage of cars and trucks to keep the rats from crawling into the engine compartment and chewing through sparkplug wires and other rubber-coated lines. (Photo by Army Spc. Chris Gardner)





Construction of the first major buildings had just begun when this photograph was taken from over the west flight line in February 1930. On the left center is the foundation of Building 499 (now the front building of the Air Force Personnel Center). In the center distance is the beginning of Washington Circle with a number of tents for construction workers. Visible through the center are rail cars on a temporary siding bringing construction materials to the building sites. On the right the northwest arc of the main circle is clearly identifiable. (Photos courtesy of Air Education and Training Command history office)

# Randolph takes shape

## Despite great depression, construction proceeds, base becomes known as “West Point of the Air”

*(This article is the fourth of a series celebrating the 75th anniversary of Randolph Air Force Base.)*

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

Shortly after the city of San Antonio acquired the land on Dec. 31, 1927, to build a flying training base, Brig. Gen. Frank Lahm, commander of the Air Corps Training Center at Duncan Field formed a committee to name the new site. It was already labeled in the press as the "West Point of the Air." Before the committee completed its work, one of its members, Capt. William Randolph, was killed in a plane crash in Gorman, Texas. Maj. Gen. James Fechet, Chief of the Army Air Corps, accepted the committee's recommendation that the new field be named in Randolph's honor.

In August 1929, Randolph Field received its first commander, Capt. Earl DeFord, who later retired as brigadier general. For three months, he was the only assigned military person on the base until 46 enlisted men joined him to start installing various kinds of military equipment. When Captain DeFord arrived, his new command consisted of a network of newly constructed streets with underground utilities, a couple of construction company shacks, a Chinese restaurant where the construction workers ate and one flagpole – with flag. No permanent buildings had been started yet. First Lieutenant Harold Clark continued his work as supervising architect, working with building designers and planners, although he was transferred to Air Corps headquarters in Washington. Capt. Arthur Parker, the construction quartermaster from Fort Sam Houston, managed contracts for construction. A railroad spur with two sidings was completed

very early in the building process to handle the massive quantity of construction materials that would be needed. In 1929 railroads, not trucks, still carried the vast majority of heavy shipments throughout the nation. By 1943, Randolph could boast nine rail spurs, all in the "industrial" area of the base, generally in the area where the commissary, base exchange and Building 224 are now located. One unique feature on the base was the system for distributing fuel to the aircraft on the flightlines. Then identified as the "aqua system," the four 25,000-gallon gasoline storage tanks were designed to take advantage of the fact that gasoline is lighter than water. After gasoline was pumped into a storage tank from the railcars that brought it, water was pumped into the bottom of the tank until the gasoline floated up against the top of the tank. This eliminated an air space where explosive gasoline vapors could accumulate.



Randolph Field as it appeared in 1932 from above the east flight line. Building 100, the “Taj,” is complete but there are almost no trees or plants on the base. A line of Primary Trainer 3 airplanes is waiting for the cadets on the sod ramp.





This is one of the four unique gardens planted sometime between 1932 and 1934 by Lt. Norfleet Bone, Randolph horticulturist. This cactus garden was located just west of the main base administration building. Today the garden has been made into a grassy median.

# As buildings go up, landscaping goes down, creating training showplace for Army Air Corps

The water also served as a filter through which any sediment in the fuel would sink. The gasoline was then pumped through underground pipes to 34 refueling pits distributed around the base.

The first buildings contracted for construction were two warehouses and six enlisted men's barracks. Work began on these buildings in October 1929. The warehouses are now identified as Buildings 220 and 224. The barracks now serve as offices for the Air Force Personnel Center, the Air Education and Training Command logistics offices and the 12th Flying Training Wing mission support functions.

In 1931, two rows of hangers were built, 10 on the west and eight on the east sides of the base. Each hanger was designed to house 30 aircraft, but one hanger was set aside for a gymnasium and another was used for instruction.

The cadet area of the base centered on their academic and administrative buildings (now Buildings 900 and 905). Two cadet barracks (now Buildings 901 and 902) bordered the quadrangle where the cadets drilled, exercised and marched off their discipline "tours." Other cadet barracks (now Buildings 903 and 907) were added in 1939.

The 174 individual houses and 84 duplexes for quartering officers and noncommissioned officers were designed according to standard Army specifications, modified to meet the Spanish Colonial concept that was the unifying architectural

theme for the whole base. Field grade officers' quarters cost an average of \$13,500 and company grade officers' quarters about \$12,000. The houses were built with generous open space around them, a feature that still helps to make the base a showplace.

Along with the planning for buildings and operations, the design committee made careful provision for landscaping. First Lt. Norfleet Bone, a World War I pilot and Texas A&M landscape architecture graduate, was put in charge of this aspect of the plan. He built a 20-acre horticultural nursery, in the area where the horse stables are now located, to handle the many plants he collected from around Texas.

More than 25,000 plants were cultivated in the nursery and planted around the base. Virtually every building was accented with plants selected to complement that building's architecture. Street lighting was also designed to blend into the architectural theme. Live oak and Spanish oak trees were transplanted from Cibolo Creek and from the Army's training facility near Leon Springs. Lieutenant Bone even conducted an expedition to New Mexico to secure rare cacti that he had flown in by air transport.

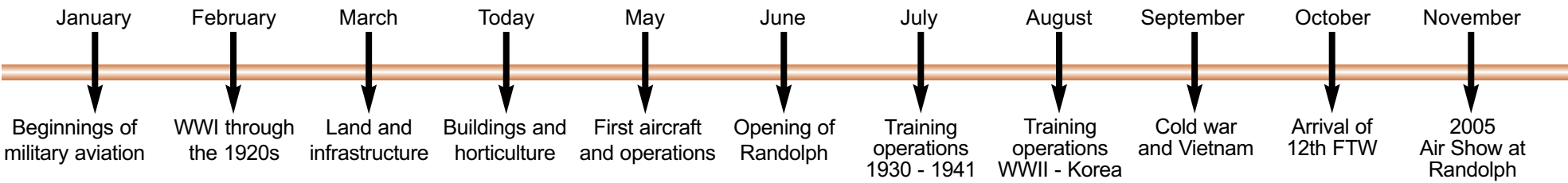
Many of the live oak trees on base were a gift from the Daughters of the American Revolution, donated in 1932 on the 200th anniversary of President George Washington's birth.

Lieutenant Bone planned the locations and layout of parks, recreation areas and the four base swimming pools. One interesting element of his plan was an earth-bermed amphitheater overlooking a 60- by 120-foot swimming pool, set between the two enlisted barracks, now Buildings 399 and 581, on 5th Street East. The amphitheater complex included a poolside stage for theatrical productions and plantings of palm trees to serve as a backdrop.

Lieutenant Bone personally supervised maintenance of the landscape until he was discharged from the Army in 1932. After a short period of individual efforts to keep up the maintenance, the work was assigned as a detail to enlisted men on base.

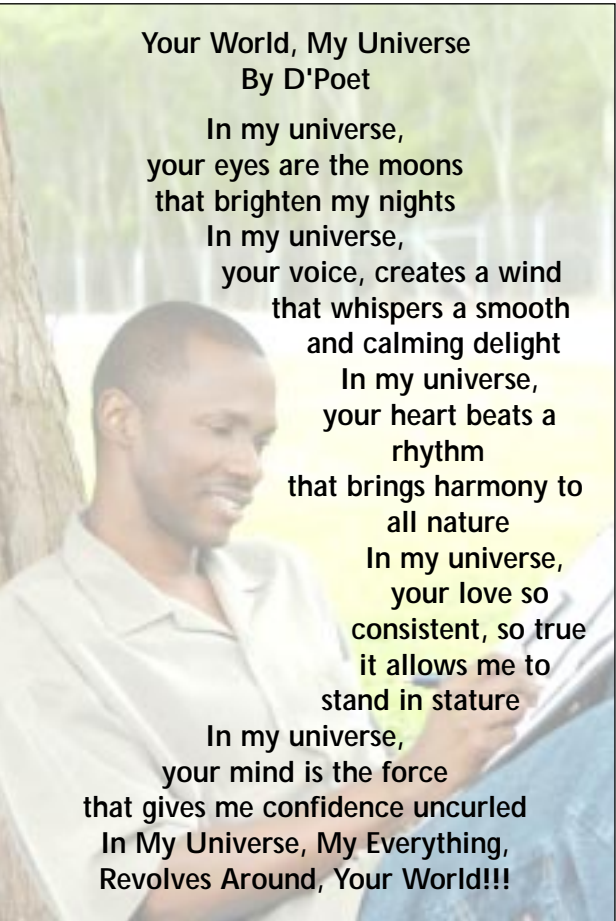
During the four years Lieutenant Bone worked on Randolph, \$150,009 was spent on landscaping. In addition, \$81,412 was spent on the landing fields, which were sodded with Bermuda grass – all 1,900 acres.

Today only two streets on Randolph carry the names of individuals. Harmon Drive, the main entry street, is named for Lt. Gen. Millard Harmon who was stationed here briefly in 1940 before assuming command of Army forces in the Pacific theater. Bone Road is the other and runs from the east Perimeter Road past the recycling center to where Lieutenant Bone's nursery once stood.





# NCO's love of poetry leads to book



Your World, My Universe  
By D'Poet

In my universe,  
your eyes are the moons  
that brighten my nights  
In my universe,  
your voice, creates a wind  
that whispers a smooth  
and calming delight  
In my universe,  
your heart beats a  
rhythm  
that brings harmony to  
all nature  
In my universe,  
your love so  
consistent, so true  
it allows me to  
stand in stature  
In my universe,  
your mind is the force  
that gives me confidence uncurled  
In My Universe, My Everything,  
Revolves Around, Your World!!!

By Renee Bassett  
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The observance of National Poetry Month is significant for a Randolph NCO. April not only celebrates the art of poetry for all Americans, but for Tech. Sgt. Darryl Thomas it also marks an important milestone in his nine-year prose-writing career: the publishing of a book of his poems. A supply systems analyst in the 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Sergeant Thomas spends his duty days interacting with people at bases all over the world about computer networking and programming issues. It was during such an overseas phone conversation in 1996 when the door to his passion for writing poetry was opened. While providing technical assistance to a fellow Airman in Germany, the Airman told Sergeant Thomas he had an articulate way with words and suggested he start writing poetry. Sergeant Thomas took that advice into consideration and wrote his first poem. It has since become one of 60 poems that appear in print this month in his book, "Much Luv Always" by D' Poet, his pen name. "I become inspired to write most of my poems

from dreams I have," he said. "I wake up in the middle of the night and start writing down all of my thoughts." He added poetry is therapeutic for him. "It allows me to step away from myself and refocus on life," he said. "I become so consumed with everyday things that I have to step out of the box and look at myself deeper." The poetry the sergeant writes relates to love and communication. He said his three children and the world travels he's enjoyed during his 23-year Air Force career inspire his creative writing. "I believe any experience is a good thing," he said. "The Air Force has been an eye-opener for me. It has allowed me to go to other countries and see how others live. One thing I believe everyone in the world has in common is that we all want love, friendship and family. In my poems I try to portray a positive outlook on life and love." With his first book complete, Sergeant Thomas said he plans to publish two more books. His next project will be a composition of poems dealing with humanistic issues and his third book will be science fiction. "Political issues such as war inspired me to write my second book," he said. "In that book I also deal with issues in society such as suicide, education and breaking down stereotypes."



Sarah Browne, left, performs on stage with Sara Witter, center, and Annie Poast in the Randolph High School production of "All The Way Home." (Photo by Robin Davidson)

## Theater group advances to area contest

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

Randolph High School's one-act play, "All The Way Home," advanced to an area contest held Tuesday after going forward in the District 27 2A competition. In the area competition, theater group members Sara Witter and Brodie Green were awarded the Area All-Star Cast Award. "We were extremely pleased to find out we had advanced to this year's area contest," said play director Vance Sarlow. "All of the schools brought great shows to the contest this year." The students were also elated about

advancing in the competition. "I am excited because it's my senior year and I know I wouldn't get the chance to do high school theater again," said Brodie Green. "I'm really excited about winning because it shows that we have a great team and a great show," said Tamara Austin. In the District 27 2A competition, Sara Witter and William Schwartz won an All Star Cast medal, and Tamara Austin won an All Star Cast Honorable Mention medal. Members of the theater group include William Schwartz, Sara Witter, Tamara Austin, Kimberly Matthews, Ashley Hill, Emily Hostage, Andrew Touhill, Brodie Green, Stephanie Stivers, Andrea

Shannon, Ryan Houpt, Theresa Anne Poast, Sarah Browne, Kyle Ferguson and Pedro Lopez. Assisting Mr. Sarlow in the direction of the play was teacher Melody Burton. "All The Way Home" was written by Tad Mosel and is based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel "A Death in the Family" by James Agee. Set in 1915 near Knoxville, Tenn., the story focuses on a family dealing with death and alcoholism. "Theater requires a combination of talent, skill and practice," said Mr. Sarlow. "It is a good extracurricular activity for students because it teaches teamwork and responsibility. Each member of our cast and crew brings something special to the production."

## 'Dollar Days'

*A growing trend in retail stores coming to commissaries in April*

By Bonnie Powell  
Defense Commissary Agency

Patrick Nixon, chief executive officer and acting director of the Defense Commissary Agency, said commissaries in the United States kick off the new "Dollar Days" sales event during the first two weeks of April with plans for a repeat performance the first two weeks of August. Items throughout the store will feature dollar pricing. Commissaries in Europe and the Far East also plan to participate in Dollar Days but the time frame may not coincide with stateside stores. "Customers might see two-for-a-dollar deals, or even unusual deals such as three items for two dollars," said Nixon. "It all depends on the items up for sale naturally, but the key is in offering multiple items for even dollar amounts." Customers should look for "Extra Savings" signs in stores that will show the way to Dollar Days savings throughout their commissary. If the sales promotion proves popular with customers, Dollar Days could be expanded to several times per year, according to Nixon. Theme sales have proven popular with commissary customers already. Many stores hold dollar sales or sidewalk sales and DeCA currently holds two worldwide case lot sales in May and October.

## Base holds car show

*Spring event features variety of classic vehicles*

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

Randolph is hosting its 7th Annual Open Car Show April 17 from noon to 5 p.m. in the clinic parking lot. The event features modern and antique cars. A few of the older models even have the original window stickers and vehicle specifications. People who want to participate can pre-register at the skills craft center, Building 895. The registration cost is \$25, or \$15 for active duty military E-4 and below. The day of the event, participants need

to arrive between 9 a.m. and noon. At noon, a selected panel of judges will begin the judging. Trophies are presented for first, second and third place in each category, plus 'Participants Choice,' 'Best of Show' and 'Commander's Choice.' "People should plan now to attend this fun day jam-packed with music, food and refreshments," said Sharon Rector, community support flight program manager. "The car show features a variety of classic cars, from antique cars of the early 1900s to the state-of-the-art cars of today." For more information on the show, call the auto skills center. "This is a great family event, with cars for the young and the old," said Richard Huffman, auto skills center manager. "Come and take a walk down memory lane and step into the future at the same time." The Open Car Show is made possible, in part, by the support of Jack's Paint Place, Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union and Eisenhower Bank.



# AETC SC/CSS captures extramural golf title

The combined squad of the Air Education and Training Command Communications and Information Directorate and Computer Systems Squadron defeated the 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron for the Extramural Golf League Championship title March 30 at the Randolph Oaks Golf Course. AETC's "A" team, Jon Gardner and Bret Robinson, defeated 12 LRS' Joe Smoak and Mike Mata while their "B" team, Richard Osburn and John Pron, downed LRS' Hal Keyes and Pat Fox.

"Our guys played exceptionally well but CSS' strategy and skill was hard to match, they made few mistakes and deserved to win," said Mike Fisk, 12 LRS team captain. "They seem to always be right there at the end of each season, so maybe we'll get to see them again in the 2005 Intramural Golf finals."

The intramural season begins in a few weeks with a "captains" meeting to set the organization and rules. All Randolph organizations are eligible to participate.

For more information contact the golf league secretary Shaun Derry at 652-3905.



Bret Robinson, AETC SC/CSS, steadies himself for a birdie putt to close out the win, while team captain, Jon Gardner checks his alignment. (Photo by Mike Fisk)

## Fit to fight



The “Fit to Fight” column recognizes Team Randolph members who achieve an “excellent” (90% and above) rating on the Air Force Fitness Test.

- 100%:**  
John Bone  
Joseph Chozinski  
Sam Grable  
Michael Green  
Mark Murray  
Merle Richard

**90% and above:**  
Regina Alfonso  
Carlos Araiza  
Maria Bavaro
- Anthony Bell  
Ryan Blake  
Shellie Daniels  
Rex Daugherty  
Deborah Fort  
Lance Kent  
Barry Mattson  
Billy Nicholas  
Bryan Posey  
Wendy Seaman  
Jermaine Smith  
John Wilkens

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Muscle Mania

Randolph's Muscle Mania Power Lifting Competition is May 7 at 10 a.m. at the fitness center. Registration is required before May 6.

To register, call 652-5316.

### Runner's clinic

The physical therapy clinic is teaching an intermediate runner's clinic the second Wednesday of every month from 3-4 p.m. at the health and wellness center, Hangar 71.

The class focuses on picking the right type of running shoe for the person's foot type.

### Sit up competition

The fitness center is holding a sit up competition today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is open to all DoD ID card holders.

### Varsity softball coaches needed

The fitness center is looking for a men's and women's softball coach for the 2005 season.

If interested, contact the center at 652-5316.

## Deadlift record



Moton Hopkins lifts weights Wednesday during a training session at Randolph High School. He won the Division III 242-pound weight class at the Texas High School Powerlifting Association State Meet in Houston Saturday. The Randolph High School senior set a deadlift record of 645 pounds and a total lift record of 1,545 pounds for the deadlift, squat and benchpress events. (Photo by Jennifer Valentin)